

### **Amendments to the Claims**

Claim 39 (Previously Added) A method for inhibiting the loss of learning ability or increasing the learning ability of an aged companion pet in need of such treatment which comprises feeding the pet an antioxidant or mixture of antioxidants at levels sufficient to accomplish the said inhibiting or increasing, the said antioxidant selected from the group consisting Vitamin E, Vitamin C, alpha lipoic acid, l-carnitine and mixtures thereof.

Claims 40-43 (canceled)

Claim 44 (new) The method in accordance with claim 39 wherein the aged companion pet is a canine and is fed a mixture of Vitamin E, Vitamin C, alpha lipoic acid, and l-carnitine.

Claim 45 (new) The method in accordance with claim 39 wherein the aged companion pet is a feline and is fed a mixture of Vitamin E, Vitamin C and l-carnitine.

Claim 46 (new) The method in accordance with claim 44 wherein Vitamin E is fed to the canine in at least about 100 ppm, Vitamin C is fed to the canine in at least about 50 ppm, alpha lipoic acid is fed to the canine in at least about 25 ppm and l-carnitine is fed to the canine in at least about 50 ppm, all levels as measured by a diet fed to the canine.

Claim 47 (new) The method in accordance with claim 45 wherein Vitamin E is fed to feline in at least about 100 ppm, Vitamin C is fed to the feline in at least about 50 ppm and l-carnitine is fed to the feline in at least about 50 ppm, all levels as measured by a diet fed to the feline.